

# The Weekly Gazette.

CITY OF LANCASTER:  
Monday Evening, Dec. 13, 1852

**THE PUBLIC LANDS.**—The report of the Commissioner of the General Land Office contains much information in regard to the public domain. The lands surveyed the past year amount to 9,522,053 acres. The lands advertised for sale to 8,032,453 acres. Lands sold for cash to 1,553,071 acres. Located with the Bounty Land Warrants, 3,301,314 acres. Located with other certificates, 115,652 acres. Making a total 4,870,078 acres located during the year. In addition there were reported as Swamp Land Grants, &c., 8,245,100 acres, making the grand aggregate of 13,115,175 acres disposed of during the year, an excess of 3,343,372 acres over the previous year.

A few figures show the magnitude of the Land Office business. The accounts adjusted and reported to the Comptroller for settlement, were 1,491. Letters received during the year 23,000. Certificate of Land sales issued, 21,503. Bounty Land Warrant locations registered, 29,236. Declaration statements entered, 9,318. Swamp Land, Internal Improvement and other selections recorded, 50,000. Cash, Bounty Land, and other Patents recorded and transmitted, 70,000. No less than 7,664,519 acres Swamp Land and other selections were certified to the respective States, and upwards of 20,000 pages of letters and accounts were recorded.

The report of Dr. Owen on the North West Territory, including Nebraska, will soon be out. He recommends a geological survey of Oregon, and the Commissioner concurs in the expediency of it.

The total number of land warrants issued from 1847 to 1852, inclusive, are 223,007, embracing 22,425,400; the number of warrants located 121,026, covering 14,802,040 acres; leaving outstanding 101,981 warrants, which call for 7,629,360 acres. There have been issued under the Act of '50, granting Bounty Land to the officers of the war of '12, and the Mexican war, 738,698 warrants, covering 9,924,320 acres of land; of which have been located, 45,506, leaving outstanding, 93,192 warrants.

The Commissioners recommend the passage of an act granting a quarter section of land to every soldier of the war of '12 who has not already received bounty land, whether regular or volunteer, who served for any length of time, however short. As the number of warrants issued under the Act of '12 supplementary to that of 1850, is only 177, it is not probable that the proposed extension of the Bounty Law will require the appropriation of any large quantity of the public lands.

The Commissioner recommends the erection of Land Offices in California, Oregon and the Territory of Nebraska, Utah and New Mexico, to collect evidence of claims and make other necessary preparations for the sale of the Public Lands therein.

The number of claims pending before the Board of California Land Commissioners was 298, and testimony had been taken in 115 cases.

On the subject of Railroad Grant Lands, the Commissioner states that the reserved sections of the grants to railroads along their routes have sold readily at the minimum prices fixed by the laws, and the Commissioner thinks these grants have enhanced the value of the Public Lands. He states the average cost of railroads in the Land States, at \$25,000 per mile and thinks that the grant of 3,340 acres per mile in aid of railroads in those States will be beneficial alike to them and the General Government.

The grant of six sections, or 3,340 acres, per mile, the Commissioner states would not quite realize \$10,000 at the double minimum. The balance of over \$15,000 per mile, would have to be furnished by the State, or the individual enterprise to which the construction of the road might be entrusted. He regards the act passed at the last session of Congress, granting the right of way and the privilege of taking the necessary materials for the construction of all such roads from the public lands, as a fair introduction to this policy, and the Commissioner says:

With these views, I respectfully recommend that grants of this character be made to the several States for every work of the kind they may undertake; and especially to the States west of the Mississippi, for the construction of railroads from that river, along the fertile valleys watered by the streams that descend from the Rocky mountains to the foot of those mountains, and that like grants be made to the State of California, and Territories of Oregon, Utah and New Mexico, for routes leading from the Pacific to the west side of those mountains, leaving the transit of the mountains to individual enterprise, or the enlarged liberality of Congress, in view of the immense facilities and advantages that would ensue to the commercial interests of the country from such communications.

The protection that would thus be extended to citizens residing on the frontiers, the inducements to settle on those lands, and the facilities that would be furnished the government for transporting annuities and goods for the Indians, and men and military stores for the frontier posts, would fully justify such grants, aside from the pecuniary profit growing out of them.

Or, if the States of Iowa and Missouri should combine to construct such a road from some point on the Missouri river, west of the western boundary of those States, or Arkansas and Louisiana should, in like manner, undertake the construction of a Southern road, for the mutual benefit of those States, that liberal grants be made for those purposes.

The vast importance of these measures will secure their completion if they are once commenced; and many now living will see the waters of the Atlantic and Pacific brought within a few days travel of each other, and our country become the mart and medium of the trade of the world.

**INDIANA ELECTORAL COLLEGE.**—The Legislature of Indiana, at its last session, having fixed the first Monday of December for the meeting of the Electoral College of that State, instead of the first Wednesday, as provided by Congress, only five of the thirteen members met on the first instant. The vacancies were filled by the five electors, and the vote of the State cast for Pierce and King.

There are about eleven hundred banks in the United States.

**OHIO LEGISLATURE.**—We have looked in vain to find any thing of interest in the proceedings of this body. We cannot for the life of us see the necessity for the present session, unless it would be to revise and correct the incomprehensible and defective enactments of the previous one. But as there is little hope for any thing so desirable from a set of men whose only object in going there was pecuniary gain, we would advise them to save the credit of the State, and relieve the people from taxation, by "pulling stakes" and making a "motion" towards home. We do so however, with little hope—for it would surely be an anomaly for that body to profit by good advice.

**NEW YORK CRYSTAL PALACE.**—This building, constructed of iron and glass, is erected on Reservoir Square. The ground plan of the building forms an octagon, and is surrounded by a Greek Cross, with a dome over the intersection. The extreme length and breadth of the building are each 365 feet. Height of dome to top of lantern, 148 feet. Entire space on ground floor, 111,000 square feet. Galleries, 62,000 square feet. Whole area, 173,000 square feet, or 4 acres. The architects of this superb structure are George J. B. Castensen and Charles Gilchrist. The exhibition is announced to be opened on the second of May, 1853, and already bids fair to be complete in every department.

**THE MORGAN AND WASHINGTON SENATORIAL ELECTION.**—Last Saturday the people of Morgan and Washington voted for a Senator to fill the vacancy occasioned by the death of Mr. Covey, who, it will be remembered, was a passenger on the ill-fated Buckeye Belle. The contest was chiefly in reference to the Temperance question, and the result will decide whether the good people of Morgan and Washington are for or against the Maine Law.

**PERTINENT.**—The Woman's Rights Convention, held at Mt. Gilard, the 16th, and 17th of November, adopted a number of resolutions, among which was one declaring that like causes for a revolution exist among them that existed among our forefathers, viz: "taxation without representation." Shoot Salt or give Mam the gun.

A Bill has been introduced into the House of Representatives, authorizing the Governor of this State to make a contract with Hiram Powers, for a marble statue of George Washington, to be placed in the new Capitol. See Columbus correspondence.

**THE PUBLIC MEN OF CALIFORNIA.**—Our public men as a body, are sadly wanting in moral and religious character. For the most part they are profane and infidel. Their example is on the whole hostile to good morals. They violate the Sabbath. They discountenance churches. Thus they strike at two of the most valuable of social institutions. Not a few live in open and shameless adultery. Some are well known gamblers. Some are bullies, ready alike for a fistfight or a duel. Few, comparatively, are pure-minded and honorable men. Even some prominent among us—formerly admired for their high moral character as political men, have sunk to the companionship of harlots. In the cover of midnight could be lifted suddenly, many a public servant throughout the State, would reveal some other concealment of his shame. But we trace and expose them no further. We have alluded to the character of such, only to deprecate it. We have no faith in wisdom inspired by brandy. We have no confidence in men given to "strong drink," and "strange women." We must expect to be victims of men over us who are themselves victims of their lusts. For a high moral character is essential to strict integrity. —Pacific

**A SHOCKING MURDER** was committed on Saturday last near Jones' Station, in Butler county. Three men named Shay, Donohoe and Murphy, became intoxicated, and got into an angry, in which Shay struck Donohoe on the head with an axe, fracturing his skull, but Shay and Murphy, supposing Donohoe to be feigning, pretended to be more hurt than he was, placed him against a tree, and kicked him to death, because he would not stand upright. Shay was arrested and Murphy escaped. Officers are in pursuit of the latter.

**NOBLY AND LIBERALLY DONE.**—We learn from Mr. Hembree, of Lafayette, that the citizens of that place and vicinity raised one thousand and forty-seven dollars in cash, after having purchased of flour, ten fat oxen, and the use of twenty pack animals, all of which has been sent out to relieve and assist the destitute and suffering immigrants. This "substantial aid" has been placed under the charge of W. B. Affleck a gentleman of character and perseverance, who will do all that is possible to assist the unfortunate in their hour of need. Truly have the citizens of that place shown a most praiseworthy spirit, in their liberality and promptness with which they have responded to the call for help from their countrymen in the mountains.

How noble and praiseworthy their conduct appears, when compared with the Pharisaical course pursued by some men in our midst, who are always making loud pretensions of affection for the "dear people," when votes are to be obtained thereby. —Oregonian, Oct. 23.

**SAN FRANCISCO.**—Where is sustained enterprise there are wives and children, and the Empire City of the Pacific is not an exception. Five years ago and one dozen women were to be found in the present city limits; they number them thousands, and are constantly multiplying. Already society is quite polished and gay as in our Atlantic Cities, and San Francisco is no longer upon the farthest verge of civilization, but is Civilization's very seat. The City numbers 40,000 people; and of this number, 8,000 are children of a suitable age to attend school. Day and Sabbath Schools are in efficient organization, and already numerous colleges and seminaries are building or projected. A few years more, and we shall behold the great city, thronged with the gathered crowds of representatives of the civilized world, a Queen in the arts and sciences as she will be regal in her wealth, and we cannot but look forward to the future of San Francisco with a feeling of pride and exultation. —Sanitary Reg.

**THE AMERICAN SUNDAY SCHOOL UNION.** in Philadelphia, have sold their fine property in Chestnut street, above Sixth, and have purchased another in Chestnut between Eleventh and Twelfth, south side. They will immediately proceed to build an extensive establishment on the new premises, in which the printing and binding will be executed.

**MR. ZEPHENIB SILVERS,** living on the edge of Berkeley Square, on Sunday shot Mr. Jos. Morgan, of the same county, wounding him seriously in the breast. Morgan's brother, it is said, had eloped with Silver's daughter; and it is alleged, was assisted by Silvers for aiding in the elopement. Silvers has been admitted on bail.

**PROVISIONS.**—A writer in the Philadelphia Ledger attributes the present high prices of some articles of provision to the rapid increase of immigration, and reasons after this wise:

In the last three years the country has received about one million of emigrants, who consume on the average, one pound of butter. Taking the average weight of bullocks killed at 800 pounds (casting the fat and offal), it would require an increased amount of animal food, equal to 766,250 head of cattle to supply our new guests, independent of the extra quantity necessary for the ordinary increase of population. Of better it would take a sufficient number of cows to yield thirteen millions of pounds extra.

**SOUTH CAROLINA LEGISLATURE.**—A report has been made in the House against a bill proposing to sell free persons of color for debt. Robert Hopton, a free colored man, having conducted himself with much usefulness to the South Carolina regiment, in Mexico, during the war, a bill has been reported in the legislature to exempt him from the usual capitation tax which provides that when any person shall buy for cash any cotton, rice, or other article of merchandise, and shall sell or remove the same from South Carolina before the cash is paid, he shall be adjudged guilty of a misdemeanor in obtaining goods by false pretenses, and on conviction, shall suffer such punishment, by fine and imprisonment, not exceeding twelve months imprisonment, or a fine exceeding the value of the goods sold or removed.

**SINGULAR FATE OF AUSTRALIA.**—For four generations the Dutch alone had any knowledge of Australia. They had eyes, but saw not. Their commander, Cassin, sent out to explore the country, described it as consisting of "barren coast, shallow waters, islands thinly peopled by cruel, poor and brutal savages, of very little use." The natives had not found the gold that nature had thrown into their river beds and creeks, and the voyagers did not suspect its existence. The people were hostile and ugly; they wore no glittering chains, as did the natives of Peru; the aspect of the coast was wild, gloomy and barren. No tropical vegetation, no luscious fruits invited the stranger to prolong their stay. The Hollanders did not want land; they came in search of gold and trade, and finding neither of these they threw away the continent as large as Europe in disgust. —Athenaeum.

**FARMERS, BEWARE OF FOREIGN BANK NOTES OF DOUBTFUL CHARACTER.**—A large amount of foreign currency is being brought into this region to pay for hogs and other products. It comes here in the regular course of business, and in the absence of our home currency, it goes into general circulation. Much of this currency is from the east, and is either so well known, or secured by public stocks, as that it is received with confidence by our banking institutions.

But—mark this—efforts are being made to get this currency into circulation along with the kind good, notes of some Banks of doubtful character, or whose condition is unknown here, and some of no character at all. For instance, notes purporting to be of Banks (a host of them) located in Washington City, and which really have no existence, have been brought here lately. That currency is wholly worthless. The Banks of Columbia, we are informed, do not receive the notes of the Banks of other States, unless such as are of well established credit and generally current, or of such as are secured by public stocks. They reject, particularly, Wisconsin, Michigan, Erie, Pa., and Bank of Milford, Del. The westerners are refused chiefly because of the distance of the place of issue, and the ignorance of their condition, especially the last—Milford. Our advice to Farmers is, "to take nothing of doubtful character." —State Journal.

**TERRIBLE EXPOSURE AND SUFFERING.**—A woman, the name of McCurdy, was found in the woods about three miles above this village on the Morristown road, on Thursday evening last, in the latest stages of exhaustion produced by exposure and starvation. It seems that on Wednesday, the day before Thanksgiving, she had visited this village for the purpose of obtaining work for her needle, and falling in this, had started on foot for Morristown. She was exhausted, and faint, and was compelled to sit down by the road side a number of times to rest—and observing the passers by stare at her, as she thought as if they supposed her intoxicated, she retired into the woods to escape observation, and sitting upon the ground between two trees, she fell asleep. When she awoke, she found she could not use her hands and feet. In this state she laid till the ninth day, exposed to the frost and snow and rain, unable to attract the attention of those who were passing near her, and till she was accidentally discovered. When found, the circulation had nearly ceased, and she could have survived but a short time. She was taken into the house of Mr. Benjamin Newin, and well cared for. —Ogdensburg Sentinel.

**N. YORK DRY GOODS MARKET.**—Both woolen and cotton goods have advanced in New York, and considerable speculative activity prevails in the former description especially, in consequence of the increasing scarcity and constantly rising price of wool. What goods are making at the present price of wool will cost considerably more than the present selling prices, advanced as those are. Heavy sheetings are very active at an advance; quotations are from 7 1/2 to 8 1/2 cents. The spring trade has actually commenced, in consequence of the upward tendency of the market. Bleached goods are in low demand. The market for fine Drills is very scarce, and brown; drabs at 35c, blues 54c, and bleached 8 1/2c. Cloths, Canton flannels, &c., are also in demand, at advancing figures.

**SUSPENSION BRIDGE AT DRESDEN.**—The wire suspension bridge over the Muskumung River is to be used by the 1st of January. The span is 450 feet, and the total weight of the four cables, including wrapping wire, is 26 tons. The towers are 33 feet high. Mr. E. Downie is the builder.

**PRODUCE AT OGDENSBURG.**—The receipts of Flour at Ogdensburg since the opening of Navigation up to December 6th, were 715,493 bushels; Wheat, 985,888 bu; and Corn 423,681 bushels. The propeller St. Lawrence transported 26,338 barrels of the Flour.

**GERMAN PRINCES IN WASHINGTON CITY.**—His Highness Nicola, Prince of Nassau, and Hermann, Prince of Weid, have arrived at Washington from New York, where they have been sojourning for the last three weeks.

**COSTLY FUNERAL.**—Nelson's funeral, in 1809, cost the British government about seventy-five thousand dollars. William Pitt's, thirty thousand. Wellington's will probably cost as much as both together.

**ENGLAND.**—The volunteering for the militia has been so far successful that no less than 30,000 out of the 50,000 wanted have been secured. But only a shew of the fifty-two counties of England and Wales have furnished their full quota.

**COMMITTEES OF CONGRESS.**—The standing committee of the House of Representatives, as announced by the Speaker on Wednesday, are, with a few variations made necessary by deaths and resignations, the same as last year.

[Correspondence of the Lancaster Gazette.]  
COLUMBUS, Dec. 8, 1852.

**EDITOR OF THE GAZETTE.**—Since Tuesday morning, the Legislature has done but little business of any character whatever, much less of so important a character as to deserve the attention of your readers. The House is not in session to-day, having adjourned over to give the use of this Hall to the Agricultural Convention that assembled here this morning. The Senate adjourned, and then adjourned to give the Senators (many of whom are delegates) an opportunity to attend the sittings of that important body. Tuesday was spent by the House in committee of the whole, on a bill to better secure the privilege of habeas corpus to the citizens of this State. The provisions of this bill were originally very stringent, but in the course of consideration and amendment it has been so tempered down to constitutional conformity, that it wears but a slight resemblance to its original maimed form. It avowedly proposes to do what the people of Ohio long since condemned in John C. Calhoun, and the people of South Carolina—and endeavors to stamp upon the untarnished escutcheon of our State a stigma that all good patriots should have hoped would forever be monopolized by the "fire eaters." One of the monstrous births of the free soil womb, it conceals its deformity in a garb of popular catch-words, and attempts to undermine the loyalty of the citizen by pretending to dig out the pure gold of human rights. It is too late to chain Ohio to the car of aulification.

The resolution of the House, to cancel the bonds of Mr. J. H. Gray, as printed in the State, was laid upon the table, and a resolution to appoint two additional Sergeants-at-arms was discussed in the Senate this morning, and at length indefinitely postponed. The effort to increase the force was made by certain Senators who were desirous to secure places for certain useful implements in the business of a politician, and who were furrowed as they were by the open charge of this kind of corruption made against these gentlemen by Mr. Peppard, of Harrison. The resolution was indefinitely postponed.

The Agricultural Convention had a long, weary, and at times rather a stormy session. Some difficulties seem to have arisen between members of the Board or their friends, which were carried into the deliberations of the Convention, and the resolutions and recommendations that were iterated and reiterated, seemed to be heartily disapproved by the interested spectators. Messrs. Worthington, McIntosh, Ladd, Cest and Steele, were chosen to fill the vacancies in the Board and at the session of the same immediately after their election, Mr. Medary was chosen President, Mr. Gest Secretary, and Mr. Sullivan Treasurer. The Board decided on Dayton as the place for the next State Fair.

The bill to authorize the Governor to make a contract with Powers for a statue of Washington has been read the second time in the House and is daily gaining friends. It appropriates five thousand dollars for the purpose and requires the execution and delivery of the statue by the 1st of September, 1854. A report from the Sinking Fund commissioners, laid on the desk of members to-day, is the great subject in political circles. It divulges a quarrel between Trevett, Morgan and Pugh, on the one hand and John G. Breslin on the other. The quarrel has been ripening since last spring, and all sorts of charges have been made against the commissioners. John's replication is looked for with much interest. It is a trick of the old "Allen war," and things now promise that the old controversy will be exposed in all its detail to the public. It is thought however that in this particular case John has the better of the little Attorney General.

**THREE CHILDREN BURNED TO DEATH.**—A fire consumed a large building on Centre street, New York, on Tuesday night, which was occupied by many poor families. Many females and children were rescued by the firemen, but three helpless little children were burned to death, many parts of their bodies being left a crisp, so as to render them almost beyond recognition. Their screams were heard, but all the efforts to find them proved unavailing, and the poor little creatures suffered a shocking death. While in the act of attempting to save a female, one of the gallant firemen named Henry Farley, missed his footing, fell to the ground, and was severely injured.

**THE U. S. Sloop OF WAR ST. MARY'S,** which arrived at Philadelphia, on Wednesday, in the short space of 30 days from the Pacific, sailed from Norfolk in October, 1850, and during her cruise sailed upwards of 80,000 miles. Her crew consisted of 100 men and 200 horses. She lost but two men during her cruise, one from consumption, and the other a sailor taken from the Pegee Islands. Seven mutineers from an American merchant ship were brought home in her.

**A gang of horse thieves** has been broken up at Mechanicsburg, Ill., and some of them arrested. One of them was seriously lamed, and under the operation told the names of two of his confederates. Two of them, named Johnson and Hatfield, were subsequently arrested at St. Louis, and on their persons were found some \$600—considerable notes on the State Bank of Ohio and other banks.

**THE ST. LOUIS NEWS** thinks the present prices of hogs is more than a fair result of demand and supply, and owing to undue excitement. The New York Sun says: As the present high prices of hogs are, in a great measure, the result of a re-action set in, by and by, and to hear of some of the speculators being caught in their own trap.

**THIRTEEN THOUSAND SEVEN HUNDRED** and twenty feet above the level of the sea, at a point called the "Point of View," is a mountain half a mile and a half, nearly on the snow line of the Andes, stands the topmost city of the earth, Cuzco de Pasco. It is the capital of the richest silver district in Peru.

**LETTERS FROM LOUIS NARBONNE.**—We state in the authority of Willis' Home Journal, that Louis Narbonne has written very gracious letters to Jerome Napoleon Bonaparte of this city, inviting him to return to France. The invitation, it is added, will probably be accepted. —Balt. Sun.

**ILLER'S OF THE PERUVIAN MINISTER.**—His Excellency Senor J. de Osmo, Envoy Extraordinary and Minister Plenipotentiary from Peru, lies seriously ill at the Union Place Hotel, in New York.

**A letter from St. Petersburg** states that the Emperor of Russia has started a Jan expedition, consisting of the frigate Pallada and tender screw steamer. The frigate has already sailed. The supposed object is to watch the American expedition.

**THE CRESCENT CITY AFFAIR** is at last settled. The Governor General of Cuba takes Mr. Purser Smith's recent affidavit as satisfactory, and admits him and whatever vessel he serves upon, to the port of Havana, and to quiet obscurity as before.

**SHALL WE TAKE A BUS UP BROADWAY?** said a young New Yorker, who was showing the country to a party of English gentlemen. "Oh dear no!" said the frightened girl; "I would not do that in the street!"

**A correspondent** entered an office and accused the proprietors of not having published his communication. When the type earnestly replied, "I'm not a pointer, I'm a setter."

Tuesday Evening, Dec. 14, 1852

**ADVANTAGE OF RAILROADS TO FARMERS.**—The husbandman has been blessed for the past few years with an abundant yield, and every product of his labor brings the highest price. This ready demand for the various products of the soil cannot be attributed altogether to the rapid increase of our population; but a very large share of this advance in prices must necessarily be attributed to the numerous Railroads which now so intimately connect the West with the East, which enable speculators to send the eggs, butter, chickens, &c., in the shortest possible time to a ready market. If this is so now, there is not a railroad within less than twenty-eight miles of us, what will it be when the iron horse is loaded at our doors, and our merchants no longer labor under the uncertainties of Canal navigation? There is no class of community benefited by railroads to such an extent as farmers. We find the following strong argument in favor of such facilities in the Mansfield Herald:

"**Railroads, Butter, &c.**—In 1850 butter was a drug in our market at 8 cents per lb.; eggs peeled at 6 cents, and laid grey state at 6. But owing to our increased facilities for getting to market, butter has gone up to 16c, eggs to 10, and laid to 10. Our farmers have been accustomed to look upon the trade in these three articles as little business—the women's dicker; but in this they err. Here is a clean gain of 100 per cent on your butter, 66 of your eggs, and 66 on your laid."

Suppose a farmer makes 25 pounds of butter a week or 1,300 pounds a year. He sells at the same time 150 dozen of eggs; 300 lbs. of laid, and 1,500 cwt. of pork—pork having gone up from 2 cents in 1850 to about 5 in 1852.

The account would then stand:

1,300 lbs. butter at 16c	\$208 00
250 doz. eggs at 10c	25 00
300 cwt. laid at 10c	30 00
1,500 cwt. pork at 5c	75 00
Total in 1852.	\$338 00
Same articles in 1850.	\$161 00

Gain, \$177 00  
Look at this, ye doubting farmers. The increased value on the few items above, in one year, is sufficient to pay three railroad shares, and have \$17 left to pay the taxes on the greatly increased value of your farms, of which we have not yet spoken.

We will not ask you to contrast the prices of wheat now and during the past season with what they were a few years ago, when it brought 37, 40 or 45 cents a bushel. Of course the value of your farm is increased in proportion to the value of their products. In Huron an Erie county land sold at \$50 per acre, while better lands in Richmond sold at \$25 or \$30. The difference is owing to the former being handier to market; the cost of transporting produce being saved, the productions of their farms bring better prices."

Farmers, ponder well over the above facts, and then ask yourselves whether you do not oppose your own interests when you oppose the building of these facilities for transportation. Ask yourselves whether you did not oppose your own interests when you decided by your votes that the county should not take stock in these great works of progress. And then ask yourselves whether the stand taken by the Whig party upon this, as well as upon all other questions of public improvement, is not best calculated to call on the latent resources of the country, and add to the prosperity and happiness of the whole people.

**CHANGE IN THE MODE OF ELECTING THE PRESIDENT.**—John W. King has written a pamphlet in the form of a memorial addressed to the Legislature of the several States of the Union, proposing an amendment to the Constitution of the United States, in regard to the mode of electing President of the United States. The plan proposed is to choose the Executive from the members of the Senate, by lot. The object sought to be secured is the abolition of the convention system and its kindred abuses, and to promote the election of an officer who shall not owe his elevation to mere party ambition, and who shall not, in advance, be committed to the elevation of any clique, or furtherance of any platform of measures. This subject is now exciting much thought throughout the country, and whether the plan proposed be a correct one or not, there is, we are assured, a wish on the part of many, that a change of some kind might be accomplished.

**THE AMERICAN TRACT SOCIETY.**—From a condensed statement of the affairs of this Society, we learn that about twenty presses and 250 operatives are employed in the manufacturing department, with a daily produce of about 50,000 publications. The amount of printed matter in the periodical form is equal annually to a million volumes of 200 pages each. The gratuitous issues of tracts and books amount to more than \$45,000 annually, besides appropriations of \$20,000 in cash, for distribution in more than one hundred languages in foreign and pagan lands. The number of colporteurs in this country, including nearly 100 for the foreign emigrant population, is between 400 and 500. More than \$1,000 are required daily to meet the earnest demand on the treasury.

**REPORT OF SINKING FUND COMMISSIONERS.**—This document is entirely too lengthy for the columns of the Daily. It will fill about two pages of the Weekly Gazette, and is a highly important document. We may from time to time make extracts from it; but for the present it must go by default.

**STEAMER BURNED.**—A despatch from New Orleans states that the steamer Cleopatra was burned to the waters edge, on Monday, 6th inst., while on her way down the Black River. She had a cargo of 900 bales of cotton. The Captain's son perished in the flames.

**FIRE IN BALTIMORE CITY—Loss of Life.**—A despatch from Baltimore says the extensive Grocery Warehouse of Messrs. Hays & George, has been totally destroyed by fire. Loss \$60,000—fully insured. Three men were killed by the falling of the walls.

**INDIAN LECTURES.**—George Copway, the Ojibway Chief, is lecturing in Pittsburgh, on the religious beliefs, poetry and characteristics of the Indians.

**HOGS.**—The Louisville papers say there is more hogs at the present time in that city than was ever there at any one time before.

**The Legislature of North Carolina** has not yet succeeded in electing a United States Senator.

**CUBA.**—It is true that this island belongs to Spain; it is true that Polk offered the Spanish Government a hundred millions of dollars for it; it is also true that Spain refuses to sell it for any amount. It is true that the inhabitants of the island have no desire to change the form of their government nor their rulers. These being indisputable facts, will the Telegraph please to inform its readers how we are to manage to get possession of the island? That's what we want to know. The last San Antonio (Texas) Ledger, says that three hundred armed volunteers for Cuba, were quartered on St. Joseph's Island. It was against such outlaws our article was directed, and if the editor of the Telegraph wishes to screen himself from the fire of our battery, he will first have to come out upon the side of law and order and acknowledge that he is not a co-worker with filibusterism.

Upon the foreign policy of Mr. Fillmore's administration, a Locofoco correspondent of the Baltimore Sun says:

"In regard to Cuba, Mr. Fillmore has undoubtedly the advantage over the filibusters—and all other 'bustlers' who made themselves prematurely conspicuous by their patriotism. Our foreign relations have been in able hands, and Mr. Fillmore makes a fair exhibit of them."

This is the opinion which fair, impartial men of this day will pronounce, and it is the verdict which all parties will render in after time.

**THE GUANO SPECULATION.**—It is stated at Washington that a combined force of New York speculators in Guano, are about to besiege Congress to make them compensation, to the amount of upwards of two millions of dollars, for the loss of anticipated profits in the Guano trade, cut off by the adjustment of the Lobos Island controversy. This claim is based on the letter of Mr. Webster, to Capt. Jewett, asserting the right of the United States to the Islands, by which the speculators were misled. If Capt. Jewett and his assistants took the advice of Mr. Webster as their guide, it was as a lawyer. We agree with the Cincinnati Gazette, that these gentlemen have no nationality, which opened the way to official diplomatic correspondence with the Secretary of State, and if the opinion given was erroneous they must bear the loss as other people do. Their claim on the United States is absurd. The right of Peru to the Lobos Island was perfect, and our government could not gain anything, but perhaps, champagne and hot suppers, may present it in a different aspect!

**THE JOURNAL OF COMMERCE** argues against the acquisition of Cuba. It says the purchase of that island by the General Government, would violate the constitution, and prostrate all the doctrines of State Rights. This we take to be strange language when it is recollected that President Polk's Administration offered a hundred millions for the island. That paper says:

"Franklin Pierce owes his nomination almost wholly to a letter which we saw at Baltimore, that he circulated among a few members of the Democratic Convention, 'showing that the stood where Clay and Webster stood, and where Van Buren once stood, and we hope will yet stand, on this question.'"

This will be comforting news to the Filibuster editors of the Eagle and Telegraph.

**THE TARIFF.**—This subject has already been brought before Congress and summarily disposed of. In the House, Mr. Brooks, of New York, the President's Message being under consideration, moved to amend the motion to commit the message by adding thereto the following:

"Except as much of the message as relates to the subject of the tariff and the revenue from customs, which shall be referred to a select committee, with power to examine witnesses and collect testimony here and elsewhere, with instructions to report as soon as possible some bill reducing the duties on imports to such amount as may be required for an economical administration of the Government."

After considerable debate the amendment was rejected, yeas 73, nays 93. The National Intelligencer says:

"It is a matter of not less surprise than regret to see that the House of Representatives yesterday voted down a proposition, made by Mr. Brooks, of New York, to appoint a select committee to revise the tariff, with the view of avoiding the collection of a large surplus revenue. No proper Tariff is likely ever to be framed but by some special committee giving the subject their sole and exclusive study, in the collection of such facts as will enable them to embody their conclusions in a bill. The already accumulated and accumulating surplus revenue would seem to make some such step as would propose indispensable."

**BLACKS AND MULATROS.**—Mr. Senator Cushing, from Gallia county, has introduced into the Senate of Ohio a bill "to prevent the further settlement of blacks and mulatto persons in this State." This bill provides:

"That after the 1st of January, 1853, no black or mulatto person shall settle in this State.

"That a record shall be made of all such residents in the State before that time. Children of such born after that time to be recorded also.

"That all such persons found here after that time not recorded, are to be declared unlawful non-residents, guilty of an offence, and punished by imprisonment in the county jail, from 6 to 12 months.

Non-resident colored persons under the act are declared incapable of holding real estate, and none can be devised to, or held in trust for them. All such is forfeited to the State.

There are many persons in Ohio, that much regret the presence of colored persons in our midst who would rejoice, if they now here were better provided for elsewhere, and all others were prohibited from settlement in the State; but the bill of Mr. Cushing, hold though it be, is not calculated to win their favor and will meet a most determined opposition of a very large portion of the people of the State. No such bill can very soon become a law in this State.

**IMPORTANT BILLS.**—Yesterday two important bills were introduced into the House. One to prevent the circulation of foreign bank bills in Ohio, where no provision is made for their redemption in the State, and the other to render more stringent the proceedings against our own Banks, which do not pay the taxes that are, or may be imposed upon them by the Legislature. Fifteen thousand Locofoco majority in Ohio has but added to the fuel of some men's flame of wrath against the Banks. We shall probably see what will become of it.

**ON THE 23rd INST.,** 24 steamboats, with 23,590 bales of cotton, arrived at New Orleans.

**OUR UNION SCHOOLS.**—It is with pleasure we note the growing popularity of our present School System. A stranger who paid a visit to the schools hands us the following for publication, which we do with pleasure. It is only one of the many encomiums they have received from both travelers and citizens: